

OFFICERS AT THE FRONT BELIEVE CROZIER UNFIT

Told Rep. McCormick He and Gen. Sharp Should be Superseded.

SECRET TESTIMONY OUT

British Are Afraid This Country is Not Measuring Up.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Some interesting disclosures regarding American army affairs at home and abroad were made through publication of confidential testimony given recently before the Senate military committee in executive session.

Statements of nearly all the witnesses heard behind closed doors, except Major General Crozier, chief of ordnance, were given in the usual printed report of committee proceedings. One that created something of a stir among members of Congress and in official circles generally was that of Representative McCormick, of Illinois, who back from a visit to the Allied battle fronts told the committee Allied officials were apprehensive regarding co-ordination of American war management; that Premier Lloyd George earnestly suggested Major General Leonard Wood's appointment as the American military representative abroad and that high officers in General Pershing's command urged that Major General Crozier, chief of ordnance, and Quartermaster General Sharpe be superseded.

In the confidential testimony of General Sharpe, he defended the decision to send General Pershing's expedition to France sooner than had planned, and the calling into service of more men than had been provided for. He said he knew and formally notified Secretary Baker that clothing shortages would result, but that even with the sacrifice of some lives, as many men as possible should be summoned for the effect on the Germans.

Some of the statements in secret session of Major General Greble, O'Ryan and Wright, after their return from the French front, also were made public. General Greble said that in October the Allied artillery was unquestionably superior in effect to the Germans and that General Pershing's men were well clothed and equipped.

All of the testimony of General Cro-

zier was ordered kept confidential. "Between the time when I first went to England," Representative McCormick's confidential statement said, "and when I returned from Italy, there was a perceptible change. When I landed they hurried for America, the wonder worker of the world, but when I got back there was some apprehension. They would say 'we wonder if there is lack of co-ordination in Washington?' we wonder if you have all the big men you might bring together in your government? They were very polite but you sensed a difference in their attitude."

Premier Lloyd George, Representative McCormick said, "expressed great anxiety" lest America should too greatly multiply the calibre of ordnance in use.

"Lloyd George," said Mr. McCormick, "was very anxious to know what had happened to Leonard Wood, where he had been buried and why he was not in Washington or Paris. He wanted him on the Allied war council as our representative. He was very insistent on that point."

Regarding opinion of officers in General Pershing's staff regarding Generals Crozier and Sharpe, Representative McCormick said:

"I would rather not mention any names but the most important American officers said:

"If Sharpe and Crozier do not go we do not know what may happen. When General Biddle was recently appointed assistant chief of staff, American officers were all broken up about it."

WASHINGTON NEWS -- GOSSIP

By CHARLES BROOKS SMITH.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 25.—Congressman Edward Cooper, of the Fifth district, today sent to the Secretary of War and Navy the names of boys in his district he recommends for appointment to the United States Military and Navy Academies. These are his selections:

For West Point, principals: W. P. Haley, Jr., of Bluefield, and Nestor Perdue, of Bramwell; alternates, Francis McNeer, of Union; Alden Hager, of Logan, and Elbert R. Beamer, of Bluefield.

For Annapolis, principals: Richard C. Scherr, of Gary; H. B. Jarrett, of Mercer county; Windom S. Clark, of Kyle; and Francis D. Ripley, of Mercer county; alternates, Louis S. Rowan, of Union, and Ernest P. Witte, of Bluefield.

Arrivals from West Virginia: James S. Stewart, Charles H. Henning, and Thomas Popp, of Charleston; State Senator W. P. Hawley, of Bluefield; J. H. Harmon, Jr., of Welch; Dr. L. N. Harris, of Jennings; I. E. Buck, of Gary; S. L. Richards, of Fenwick; and A. B. Cundall, of Clarksburg, the latter coming to take service with the ordnance department as an expert electrical engineer, having applied for a position of that kind last week through Senator Sutherland.

Congressman Stuart F. Reed has taken up with the pension officials an application for an original pension made by Joseph Stephens, of Reynoldsville. Mr. Reed today recommended Q. M. Sergt. Russell C. Cross, of Reynoldsburg, at present at the marine barracks at Paris Island, S. C., for a commission as second lieutenant; and Miss Hattie Robey, formerly of Clarksburg, for an appointment in the division of publications, Department of Agriculture.

The surprise is not that the former Democratic member of the United States Senate should think it, but that he should speak it right out, in advance, labeling it "confidential." What he said, in substance, was this: "With

the railroads of the country in our control we expect this year, and in 1920, to see to it that we get the railroad vote. Always before your party (Republican) got it. You got it by way of New York. It is different now. The seat of things in the railroad world is not now in New York, but in Washington, and we occupy it, and it will remain in Washington for some years to come." This lame senatorial duck's face shone with a great white light of hope, and his eyes had the distant look as if there flashed before him his old seat in the Senate and himself in it once more—an ambition, it is very generally understood among his friends he is bending every energy to attain. His remark is here repeated more for the public to think over than for any comment we desire to make. It is one of the arguments of the many used against government ownership. A bill is about to be offered in the House by Foster, of Illinois, to take over the coal mines of the country and operate them. It may be of political importance to recall that most large coal states are largely Republican at election time. Striking employees of the Chicago packers have asked the executive department of the government to move to take over that business. This and any other movement toward states-socialism finds an eager throng of advocates, not a few of whom are in important positions in this administration, and members of Congress. The economic disturbances they contemplate are revolutionary, to say the least, but the party potentialities of being in control are by no means underestimated by such partisan thinkers as the ex-Senator aforementioned. They are co-extensive in campaign value with 10,000,000 questionnaires if it is desired to put them to such use.

It's a confession of lack of originality to pull that old bromide about politics making strange bedfellows, and the man you are agin today is the fellow you will be for tomorrow stuff. But it persists in crowding out every attempt to think of an appropriate substitute as apply to Col. Roosevelt and Harry Chapman Woodyard. Here we have

them hobnobbing in the Longworth library this week, and a "Dear Harry" note coming several days before the arrival of the Big Stick, asking the Spencerian to call around and talk it over. Time was—the time of Taft—when Woodyard and a few others to the number and size of the Republican party in Texas, were the only politicians in West Virginia openly opposing the Colonel being handed that "third cup of coffee." The anti-T. R.'s in West Virginia that year were so scarce that they were in the class of regular side-show curiosities. Believe that Woodyard did manage by some hocus-pocus to grab the two delegates in his district for Taft, but in doing it, he stayed out of the race to succeed himself in Congress that year, giving about as fine an exhibition of "he who fights and runs away lives to fight another day" as was ever seen in the state's three-ring circus of politics. But T. R. bears him no grudge for that, and has wiped that off the slate. Woodyard, too, it is just as evident, is willing to let bygones be bygones. He was one of the chickens that was taken under the Roosevelt wing at the Longworth mansion this week, and there were a lot of others. Win the war—but carry a stuffed club, seems to be the policy that the Republicans are going to adopt henceforth, due to Roosevelt's presence and conferring. In furtherance of that object, effecting a strong party organization at the Capitol is one of the preliminaries that must be consummated to promote that policy. That sort of an organization the Republican party hasn't had on Capitol Hill or anywhere else since T. R. bulldozed Governor Wilson into the White House.

Mrs. Olive J. Chichester, of Weston, has secured a reissue of pension through Senator Sutherland's office, at the rate of \$20 a month from October, 1916, and \$25 a month from October, 1917.

Charles H. Henning, of Charleston-Wheeling, a Republican politician of many years' experience and popularly known to many West Virginians, hopes and expects to secure the nomination for State Senate from the Ohio county district. Quite apart from that, at the Ebbsitt where he is a guest, he said: "It is becoming generally understood throughout the state that Hon. H. C. Ogden will be a candidate for the nomination for United States Senate. I happen to know that he has received many promises of support and that the movement toward him is well underway in various sections of the state. His qualifications for the position are too well known to the people of the state to take the time to discuss for their benefit, and his strong points when analyzed from the standpoint

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of the desire to nominate a man who has the ability to make a vigorous and victorious campaign are equally as widely recognized by our party's leaders. Favorable talk of Mr. Ogden in this connection is growing, and his yet unavowed candidacy is gaining the more the senatorial situation is thoughtfully discussed by Republican voters."

Also, Wirt "Pat" Holley, of Bluefield, a Republican politician of experience and popularly known to the people in his part of the state, hopes and expects to succeed himself in the State Senate. But quite apart from that, at the Raleigh where he is registered, he said: "In the last week there has been an outspoken swing of Republican county leaders in my section of the state favorable to the nomination of Congressman Edward Cooper for the United States Senate. From all I can find out, it is spontaneous. I know that Mr. Cooper hasn't turned his hand to promote sentiment favorable to him. The trend toward him has come from underneath, not from above. There is a strong, substantial sentiment among just the plain folks of the party in the counties of the Fifth district for him, which is steadily, but surely, a rising tide, the way I look at it. I think it can be attributed to the fact that the more carefully the more favorably impressed are a good many Republicans that Mr. Cooper's nomination would meet squarely those needs. He is in Congress in touch with its affairs and experienced with its system; he hasn't been mixed up with any factional fights; he's trusted and respected by both capital and labor; his geographical location couldn't be better this year when the wisdom of party leaders and followers should demand a candidate from the southern part of the state; and he would be a candi-

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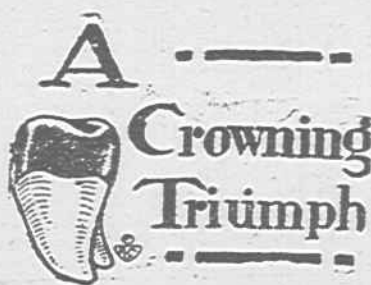
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date upon whom every Republican, with or without scars of factional fights of recent years, could and would unite without a kick or a complaint, pull his part of the campaign in the party traces willingly and with cheerfulness. Mr. Cooper, should he finally accede to the demands that a large sentiment now in the process of development for him will finally make on him to stand as a candidate, will carry the Fifth Congressional district in the primary by an overwhelming vote."



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